



Roberta W, Ellington

April 3, 1937 - October 16, 2022

Roberta Whaley Ellington, age 85, of Libertyville, passed away on Sunday, October 16, 2022. She was born on April 3, 1937, in Olney, MD, to James and Bessie (Tolley) Whaley. Visitation at 10:30 AM followed by Service and Interment at 11 AM and Interment will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at St. Lawrence Episcopal Church (125 W. Church Street, Libertyville, IL, 60048). Consider a Memorial in Roberta's name to The Hope Food Pantry at www.thehopefoodpantry.org or to Save-A-Pet at www.saveapetil.org.

Roberta had been a Libertyville resident since 1976. Roberta was an active member of St. Lawrence Episcopal Church. She served her community as a volunteer at the church's Hope Food Pantry; surrounding community food pantries; caring for homeless animals at Save-A-Pet, and as a dependable carpooling mother. She was also committed to the arts, attending professional, collegiate, and LHS theatre events; participating in neighborhood and church book groups; patronizing museums; and enjoying diverse cuisines.

Her professional careers exemplify her joy found in learning, caring, and educating. She achieved her Nursing degree in 1958 from the University of Virginia and later earned a Masters Degree in Biology from Loyola University in Chicago in 1983. Roberta had fulfilling careers first as a Pediatric Nurse and then as an Instructor of Biological Sciences at Northwestern University.

Roberta is survived by three children: Kirsten (Brendan) Moriarty, Stuart (Carolyn Denham) Ellington; and Allison (Kenneth) Cicero as well as seven grandchildren (Eric, Paige, Grace, Salvatore, Lorelei, Sadie, and Ada).

Arrangements were entrusted to Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For information, including access to a Zoom Service connection, please contact 847-362-3009 or please share a memory of Roberta at www.burnettdane.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church Columbarium

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church
125 W. Church Street
Libertyville, IL 60048

Memorial Service

NOV 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church
125 W. Church Street
Libertyville, IL 60048

Tribute Wall

TS

“Bobbie was my mother’s first cousin. (Margaret VanHynning Wright.). My mother would take my two children to Bobbie’s cabin in the summer and they loved it. Many years later, I would meet with Bobbie in Hagerstown for lunch each year as she was traveling to relatives and family. She was my go to person for information about the Tolley family! The year before last, she told me she had sold the cabin and admitted that she no longer felt comfortable driving that distance. I was in awe of her courage to jump in her car and drive so many miles! Anyway, I just happened to Google her name and sadly saw her obituary. To her children, each year she wrote about each of you and your lives. She was so very proud of you and you were so very loved by her. I’m so sorry to hear of her passing.

Tammie Sgaggero - March 18, 2023 at 07:54 PM

TH

“Roberta was a fantastic colleague at Northwestern, and she also became a great, supportive friend. I will always be grateful for the time I spent with her, at the theater at NU, Friendsgiving and lunches together. She will be missed.

Tracy Hodgson - November 21, 2022 at 08:29 PM

HE

“ Oh my goodness. Cousin Bobbie. I am so sad to hear this news. Bobbie was a strong, smart, determined woman. She was my mom's first cousin (Peggy) and I have so many good memories of the family in Maryland at Aunt Bessie's in Laurel and of course the Rappahannock. Alison as a little baby, Kirsten as a beautiful, quiet girl and Stuart the funny, a tiny-bit devilish kid. Bobbie was someone to look up to, the way she raised her family, how she went on to further her education and just never stopped doing, doing, doing. You all are in my thoughts. Heather Myers (Peggy Wright's daughter)

Heather - November 16, 2022 at 08:26 PM

KG

“ During the time I cared for her over the last year and half I learned so many wonderful things about her. From her love of books and enjoyment of cooking to raising a family outside the US. She always had a positive outlook on everything. We were constantly donating to church or charity and never missed a Sunday zoom service. Caring, selfless,
Stubborn and persistent are the best words I can use to describe her. Even in the hospital in September she was trying to do her physical therapy routine in the hospital bed and asked the nurse to count for her.
I am grateful to have gotten to know her and learn so many recipes as well. I will miss our visits.



Katie Gregory - November 04, 2022 at 12:27 AM

AC

Thank you for sharing these memories, Katie. My Mom spoke highly of your work ethic and kindness frequently.

Allison Cicero - November 06, 2022 at 08:33 PM

AF

“ Anita Flournoy purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Roberta W, Ellington.



Anita Flournoy - November 02, 2022 at 03:40 PM

BF

“ Dear Stuart, Kirsten, and Allison:

Our deepest condolences on the passing of your Mother.

As a kid, I have memories of your Mom fixing lunches for Stuart and I, many, many, times in between trips to the Adler Pool, Lake Mineer, and Hawthorne Mall. I know my Mom, Alice Blackburn, and I enjoyed her delicious cooking while visiting the cabin on the Rappahannock River. Her crab cakes are still the best I have had. As a Cub Scout leader, she was the best. Those are fond memories.

-Brett Fortier and Alice Blackburn

Brett Fortier - November 01, 2022 at 08:19 PM

NE

I miss those lunch's and swimming with you Brett good memories

Nathan S. Ellington - November 04, 2022 at 12:59 PM

AC

Many thanks for sharing these memories.

Allison Cicero - November 06, 2022 at 08:34 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Roberta W, Ellington.*



November 01, 2022 at 08:16 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Roberta W, Ellington.*



October 31, 2022 at 11:50 AM



“ *R Reeves-Ellington purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Roberta W, Ellington.*



R Reeves-Ellington - October 29, 2022 at 01:56 PM



“ *Kirsten, Stuart and Allison purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Roberta W, Ellington.*



Kirsten, Stuart and Allison - October 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *She was one of the kindest, most sincere person I’ve ever met. She was so engaged when having a conversation with you. Also I would like to express how special she was to my mother. Victoria Ellington*

Victoria Ellington - October 21, 2022 at 03:59 PM

AC

Thank you, Victoria. I have very fuzzy memories of visiting with Grandmama in TX. Odd where our memory can take us. ❤️

Allison Cicero - October 30, 2022 at 09:13 PM